## THE REPUBLICAN PALACE.

The Interior of the White House-How the President and his Wife Live-The Expenses the Establishment.

From a long article in the New York Sun we extract the following particulars about the Presidential bousehold

THE NEW ERA. To gain an idea of the change that has so gradually crept over us, and the contrast the White House to-day presents to the same establishment a score of years ago, one has but to make a formal call of respect upon the President. No longer does he find the main entrance standing open to all comers. Even at the very threshold he is reminded that the latch-string does not hang out as in days of yore. The house of the President is closed against the common throng. To be sure the great dignitary may be seen, but not as in days gone by, in a plain, familiar, easy man-The visitor must understand at the outset that he is calling upon no ordinary personage. A flunkey, in full dress, receives at the door. All the paraphernalia of swallowtailed coat, white vest and choker, black tronsers, and white gloves, with which this obsequious door-opener astonishes the visitor, is designed to prepare the mind for some-thing more grand and aristocratic within. The plain citizen is at once embarrassed and confused. If the ashers of the President are thus grandly attired, how may a visitor approach the august presence in plain homespun? Nevertheless, the grandly-dressed door-keeper is civil and polite, even to ordinary mortals in common clothes, and with a bow of imposing style, admits the visitor. A GORGEOUS APARTMENT.

But the portal passed, a more bewildering effect awaits the visitor. The grand vestibule of the Executive Mansion, glittering like the spacious saloons of Jim Fisk's Boston steamboats, with gold leaf and bright colors, presents a more advanced idea of the grandeur that has displaced the American simplicity that once graced this abode. The glass screen separating the vestibule from the main corridor of the mansion is a work of art of which even the Tuileries might be proud. The iron frame is richly bronzed, while the glass presents the choicest designs in all the colors of the rainbow. The lofty ceiling of the apartment surpasses in brilliant coloring and miscellaneous groupings Brumidi's gaudy masterpiece, which adorns the dome of the Capitol. The walls, also, are resplendent with rich colors, relieved by medallions of departed worth in chiaroscuro. In this gorgeous apartment the astonished visitor is permitted to make known to the Gentleman of the Swallow-tail Coat, who has admitted him, the object of his call. Perhaps the sim-ple rustic has resisted the bewildering effect of all this magnificence sufficiently to stammer DESIRE TO SEE THE PRESIDENT.

The visitor is thereupon transferred to another gentleman-in-waiting, similarly dressed, as if for a wedding reception, and following through a cordon of like ornamental appendages of human grandeur, is conducted through a door at the east, and up a very plain staircase to the roy—the apartments of the Chief Magistrate. But first he is shown into an ante-room immediately at the head of the stairs, where his eye again feasts upon a brilliant display of paint and gilding upon the ceiling and walls. The untutored savage, whose ideas of color are confined to the war paint he lavishly bestows upon his person, might call this frescoing beautiful; or the backwoodsman, who has never seen a work of art, might be led to gaze upon it as won-derful; but whoever has paid any attention to the first principles of coloring or design will see in it all merely the over-dress of a wanton. But aside from the cheap attempt at imitation of the beautiful, the room presents some real evidences of luxury and or. A costly carnet of Aymini other foreign production deadens the footfall, while the windows are covered with the richest lace curtains, over which hang, for winter use, the heavier satin damasks, the whole, with the massive mirrors between the windows, surmounted by an elaborate cornice in gilt. The furniture of the apartment is of black walnut, richly upholstered in satin damask. THE PRESIDENT'S AUDIENCE CHAMBER.

The audience chamber of the President like the ante-rooms and apartments of the Secretaries, has been transformed from the plain, modest, though beautiful room in which Mr. Lincoln was content to perform his official duties, into a magnificently gilded saloon, presenting, it must be acknowledged, more taste and skill in its adornment and ornamentation than the others, but still over tawdry and showy in the general effect produced. Everything in the room, aside from its frescoing, is rich and beautiful.

MRS. GBANT'S BOUDOIR. The room on the upper floor at the southwest corner of the house, formerly occupied by Mrs. Patterson as a bed-chamber, has been transformed into an elegant private parlor for Mrs. Grant. Gilding and fresco have been brought into free use in this apartment, and changed it into a luxurious boudoir. The elegant lace and damask curtains, the costly Turkish carpet, the magnificent mirrors, and the rich rosewood furniture ave all new, and were mostly procured abroad expressly for this domestic retreat. Here, when wearied with the flatteries of her admirers, and exhausted with the studied etiquette of state occasions, she retires to enjoy the familiar converse of those she esteems her particular friends. It is, indeed, a gem of a room, save the gilding and painting, which are too much and too highly colored. From its windows one of the most beautiful views in America is commanded, taking in the broad Potomac as far as the eve can reach, with Arlington Heights on the right, and the misty green meadows of the eastern shore on the left. The room abounds in pretty little ornaments, statuettes, vases, pictures, costly books, and knick-knacks, mostly presents.

HOW MRS. GRANT RECEIVES. Mrs. Grant receives her familiar friends in her private boudoir. More formal callers are ushered into the Red Parlor. To see the wife of the President is an undertaking of no small moment. The army of richly-dressed servants that fill the mansion are instructed to admit no one until a card is presented to Mrs. Grant. And then it is required that the applicant for the honor of paying his respects to the wife of the President shall either be accompanied by some one already enjoying the acquaintance of the hostess, or have been previously presented to her. The caller, moreover, must appear in full dress.

THE PRESIDENT'S EVERY-DAY LIFE. In his domestic relations, the President is treated with the utmost deference and respect. Mrs. Grant insists that whatever may be the proper homage for him to receive on public occasions is none the less proper in the

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THOMAS CHAVEN, President

ferred to as the President, and the servants are strictly enjoined to abserve this mark of distinction. On state occasions, the President above any of the grand saloons of Buckingdent, of course, with the most distinguished lady guest, leads the way into the dining-room. But this strict etiquette is by no means confined to such solemn occasions. Should a friend of the President, however intimate he might be, accept an invitation to dine socially, and, venturing upon his inti-macy, presume to forget the preference to which the President is entitled, he would be reminded of it. Thus when dinner is announced, the guest will offer his arm to Mrs. Grant, and move forward. Mrs. Grant checks him with a polite bow toward her husband, and the remark, "The President goes So at the table; the President is first served, and then those who sit at meat with him. And this rule admits of no variation under any circumstauces.

THE EXECUTIVE BILLIARD BOOM. Just off the state dining-room, and back of the passage leading to the conservatory, has been erected a small addition to the mansion for the diversion of the President. This is the Executive billiard saloon. It is about eighteen by twenty-five feet in dimensions, nearly all inclosed with glass, the narrow spaces between the windows being filled with pictures of a sporting character. The furniture is of black walnut, and consists merely of a few chairs, a table, a sideboard, etc. The room is prettily carpeted, and contains a pearl. Everything in the apartment is of the best, and certainly it is an attractive spot. The table was selected by General Grant in person at Phelan's establishment in this city, and was in use at his private residence before he was elected President.

THE EQUINE ESTABLISHMENT. The Executive stables, near the Navy Department, are fitted up with every comfort and luxury for the equine members of the Presidential establishment. There are twelve animals of various degrees of beauty and value kept here for the use of the President and his family, with four carriages, besides an array of open wagons, buggies, and other equipages. The horses include coach teams, trotters, racers, saddle-horses, and two Shetland ponies for the exclusive use of the Executive's juveniles. The aristocratic-looking Nubian who has the honor of presiding over this establishment takes delight in showing visitors through, and in descanding upon the merits of the different animals. But not the least attractive feature is the stunning live-ries of this same Nubian and his worthy coadjutor, who occupies the position of foot-man. The coats are of a rich olive-brown, with broad lapels, cuff's, and pocket-covers, the whole profusely covered with bright silver buttons, the size of an old American bright silver dollar piece. The gorgeous top-boots in which the feet of these worthies are encased render attention to the character of the pantaloons unnecessary. Black stove-pipe hats, with broad bands and massive silver buckles, adorn the heads of these servants of Presidential grandeur, and complete their outfit. All the carriages bear the initials 'U. S. G." in monogram on the panels. EXECUTIVE EXPENSES.

1862 AND 1863. 1870 AND 1871. President Lincoln, when the war was at its height, asked for the next fiscal and the daties of the Exce year a continuance of the cutive office required force he has put on duty more clerical and other since the 4th of March labor than ever before or last, viz.:

since, asked for One Private Secre-One Private Secretary (Robert Dougias) at \$8500 One Assistant Pri-\$2500 One Secretary to sign land patents. 1500 vate Secretary... One steward...... 1200 Two clerks of Class 900 4, at \$1800..... one messenger. One steward.

1000 One messenger.
One furnace keeper
Two policemen for
special duty, at Stationery and con-Hay, Military Sec-20050 Pwo night watch-His own salary.... 25,000 men, at \$900..... One doorkeeper-in-Total salaries ... \$34,050 chief ... Under Grant, ..... 61,600 One assistant door-Inc. under Grant \$27,550 One Secretary sign land patents (now stati med at Int. Department)

For stationery, etc. Pay of Maj, and Byt. Brig. Gen. Porter (actual Secretry), Mil. Detail, about Pay of Gen. Bab-cock (actual Ass't Secretary), Mil. Detail, about by of Capt. and Byt. Brig. - Gen. Badeau (historian), Mil. Detail, Pay of Maj. and Byt. Brig.-Gen. Dent. Mil. Detail (Chief Usher), about.... tary to Gen. Dent, Mil. Detail. President's salary. 25,000

Total. The above does not include the salaries of the ushers, gardeners, and other officials and laborers detailed from other departments. MORE IMPROVEMENTS AND THE COST.

In addition the following appropriations are asked for the current year:-Fuel for President's house, Care and improvements of grounds. Removing snow and ice from walks...... Manure and hauling Repairs and painting exterior of President's Lighting President's house (proportion of \$10,000 asked for that, Capitol, and public grounds) say. Pay of lamplighters. Construction of circular fence around and grounds) say. 5,000

Add salaries as above..... Expense of Executive establishment for the current year .... OLD TIME REPUBLICANISM.

When the general appropriation bill of 1840 was under consideration in Committee of the Whole of the House of Representatives, the Hon. Charles Ogle, then a Whig Representative from Pennsylvania, objected to an item of \$3665 "for alterations and repairs of the President's house and furniture, for purchasing trees, shrubs, and compost, and for superbitendence of the grounds," for the general reason that the regal splendor sought to be adopted at the White House was inconsistent with the simplicity of republican principles He argued his objection at great length, going into the minutie of Mr. Van Buren's extravagances and displays. His remarks seem so apt at the present day that we cannot refrain from quoting from them.

THE PAST ROOM IN 178 PRIMITIVE SIMPLICITY. Thus, in speaking of the furnishing of the East Room, then just fully completed, though commenced under the administration of one of Mr. Van Buren's predecessors, Mr. Ogle quotes an account of the room, then a very privacy of his own family circle. Thus he is plain apartment to what it now is, and asks, always addressed as Mr. President, and re-. "Who can deny that this room, intended for

ham Palace, Carlton House, or Windsor Cas ham Palace, Carlton House, or Windsor Castle? I ask you, sir," he continued, "whether in furnishing the East Room with all its gilded eagles, gilded stars, gilded rays, gilded slabs, gorgeous drapery and dazzling foreign ornaments, a due regard has been paid to 'the simplicity and purity of our institutions,' or to the frugal, plain, unostentatious, and republican character of our people who are represented in it? On the contrary, does not presented in it? On the contrary, does not all this glittering display of costly finery, this blinding our eyes with the blaze of royal magnificence, approximate too closely the pride, pemp, and grandeur of those govern-ments in which stars and garters and shining coronets confer not only the means of luxu-rious enjoyment, but of 'civil superiority.' BENTON OBJECTS TO ITS REGAL MAGNIFICENCE.

On the day the East Room was first opened to the public, January 1, 1827, the Hon. Thomas H. Benton was among the visitors. He subsequently wrote of the visit as fol-lows:—"This being the day on which the President's House is thrown open to all visitors, I went, among others, to pay my respects to him, or rather, I should fairly confess, I went to see the East Room, for the furnishing of which we had voted \$25,000 at the last session of Congress. I was anxious to see how that amount of furniture could be stowed away in a single room, and my curiossingle table of Phelan's make, finished in resewood in the most elaborate style. The cues are mostly of costly wood, inlaid with agreeable to my old republican feelings." SUMPTUOUS PARLORS FOR A SERVANT.

Mr. Van Buren spent the sum of \$1805.55 in improving the Blue Room. This extrava-gance was vehemently denounced by Mr. Ogle. "Tell me," he said, "whether this sumptuously garnished saloon bears the characteristics of an apartment intended for the accommodation of the chief servants of a plain, economical, hardy, and republican people, or whether it does not more resemble the audience room of a monarch, in which he receives his sleek and ribbon-bedecked courtiers as they present themselves with their humblest genuflexions and prostrations, crouching like fawning spaniels to the hand which has it in its power to throw them a bone?"

THOSE GOLD SPOONS. But Mr. Ogle only reached the height of his indignation when alluding to the state dining-room and its furniture. In his opinion it was time the people should know that their money went to buy for their plain, hardhanded democratic President knives, forks, and spoons of gold. It may well be wondered what these old-time, honest, economical re-publican statesmen would say of the dazzling display of goldware from which a modern President feasts. But the sarcasm uttered at that day may be accepted as an indication. "Oh, sir," said Mr. Ogle, "how delightful it must be to a real genuine Loco-Foco to eat his pate de foie gras, dinde desosse, and salade a la volaille from a silver plate with a golden knife and fork! And how exquisite to sip with a golden spoon his soupe a la Reine from a silver tureen! It almost makes my mouth water to talk about it." VAN BUREN'S ARTIFICIAL PLOWERS.

In his investigation of White House expenditures, Mr. Ogle hit upon a voucher for \$100 "for a set of artificial flowers for the President's table," at which he waxed eloquent in denunciation. "I am willing to concede," he said, "that the expenditure of \$100 is, in itself, a very small matter. The question, however, is not how much cash was paid by Mr. Van Buren for the bunch of artificial flowers which decorates his table, but whether the people's money shall be expended for such aristocratic French finery, and whether Mr. Van Buren, who has been raised to the most exalted station on the earth, and whose example upon society must necessarily have a most powerful and extensive influence. shall, by the introduction of foreign gew gaws into a house of the American people contribute to corrupt the plain, unostentatious and republican manners of our people, by creating vain desires for external show and for foolish displays of splendor which are not congenial with our frugal habits?"

HEMMING DISH-CLOTHS AT PUBLIC COST. Mr. Ogle made some further investigations, and found that the public treasury was charged with all the expenses of the President's household, except provisions and wine, also with the care and culture of his gardens, the grooming and feeding of his horses, and all other incidentals down to the smallest particulars of hemming the kitchen dishcloths. The last item overcame him, and he burst out in the following indignant lan-guage:—"I had thought that it was bad enough for the farmers, mechanics, and laborers of the country to provide hay and pasturage for Mr. Van Buren's race and carriage horses; to pay for the manure on his potato, celery, cauliflower, and asparagus beds; to pay the hire of a British gardener to topdress his strawberry vines, cultivate his vegetables, and construct bouquets for his palace saloons but, sir, to hem his dish rags, pay for his larding, needles, and liquor stands, is still worse. Aye, sir, worse, if possible, than filling the spartments in the house of the American people with royal and imperial Wiltons, foreign cut wine coolers, French bed-steads, and one hundred dollar artificial flowers." And yet the offenses of which Mr. Ogle so bitterly complained thirty years ago are multiplied nearly thirty fold by Mr. Grant. The expense incurred by the present administration in the one item of fresco painting is more than double the total cost of the extravagances so loudly denonneed

THE FIRST EXECUTIVE BILLIARD TABLE. Reference has been made to the apartment constructed expressly to receive Mr. Grant's billiard table. In 1827-8, President Adams introduced a billiard table into the house. Of this Mr. Ogle says:- "You, sir, cannot fail, too, to recollect the lugubrious homilies which were then addressed to all pious and devout Christians, in relation to the purchase by Pre-sident Adams of a billiard table, billiard balls, billiard cues, and chessmen. All solemn exhortations were but the harbingers of the memorable era of reform then about overtaking the administration in its supposed headlong departure from the pure precepts of the frugal, simple, democratic days of the fathers of the republic."

REFORM AND GREATER PROFLIGACY. That era of reform was inaugurated under the honest, economical administration of Andrew Jackson, only to be displaced by the extravagances of the Sage of Kinderhook, since which time each succeeding administration has added to the profligacy of its pre-decessor, until now the current annual expenses of the Executive establishment exceed \$70,000 for salaries alone, exclusive of the extra Brigadiers who draw their pay from the War Department; and annual appropriations varying from \$25,000 to \$100,000 for refitting and furnishing. If the patriotic and

virtuous Ogle took so great exceptions to an ap propriation of \$4000 for such expenses thirty years ago, what would be say now?

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Bends and Mortgages.

\$55,000 U. S. 6 per cent bends, lbsl.

12,300 do. do. do. 5-20, lbsl m and n.

\$5,000 do. do. do. 1884 m and n.

\$4,000 dc. do. do. 1885 m and n.

\$5,000 dc. do. do. 1885 m and n.

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\$4,000 do. do. do. 1867 and 1888 l. & do. 5 per cent. do. 1640.

2.5c. State of Pennsylvania six per cent. bonds. 2,5cc State of Pennsylvania six per cent.
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9,600 City of Philadelphia six per cent.
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10,000 Pennsylvania Railroad six per cent.
bonds.

16,000 Philadelphia and Krie Railroad seven
per cent. bonds.

16,000 North Pennsylvania Railroad six per
cent. bonds.

12,000 Ehmira and Williamsport Railroad
seven per cent. bonds.

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cent. bonds.

7,500 Lhigh Coal and Navigation Compsny six per cent. bonds.

200 Salem Coanty, N. J., six per cent.
bends. 2,550 00 9,504'00 8,6000 6,500'00 11,700'00 9.975 00 6.902'00 230'00 2,000 Elmira and Williamsport live per cent. 1,200'00 3,000 Allegheny County, Pa., five per cent. 5,000 Juntion Railroad sir . cent

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34,897 90 47,500 00 1,634 91

82,722,525 00

87,637,553'0

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969 Policies issued in 1869, insuring...... Outstanding 12mo. 31, 1869, insuring..... Annuities. Cotal number of deaths from the origin of the Company, 31.

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